

# SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

SERVING NEAR SOUTHWEST/SOUTHEAST

March 24 - April 25, 1995



## Cherry Blossom Festival Opens in Southwest



No sign of spring is as impatiently awaited or as much beloved as the blossoming of the Japanese cherry trees that surround the Tidal Basin and run along Hains Point. The trees are now within a few days of bursting into bloom, and the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival is ready to salute them.

Beginning on Sunday, March 26, the festival will run for 15 days. That first day, more than 25 local artists, representing a wide range of disciplines, will show their work aboard the

Potomac Spirit. This is the 5th annual Arts and Crafts Show, which will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show is open to the public all day. Admission is free.

A partial listing of participating artists, many of whom return from prior years, includes: Patricia Palermino, folk artist; Elaine Hahn and Jason Du, water colorist; Warren Taylor, Syed Shah, photographers; Shawnee Holmberg, origami jewelry maker; Roberta Knox, Norma Bovell, Claire Ingley,

jewelers

Don Viehmann, cloisonne designer; Sandra Mckinnon, doll maker; Alvin Brown, Bill Good, and Linda King, painters; Ted and Diane Kershaw and Arleatha West, potters; Marvadell Zeeb, wood turner; Emily Abbott and Deb Appleby, glass designers; Melissa Sarris, quilter; Carina Johnson, fabric designer; Sandra Rhyne, paper covered eggshells; Denny Lewis, "gyolaku"; Roselle Pack, framed kimonos and dolls.

But the Arts and Crafts Show is only part of the hoopla. At 2 p.m., the U.S. Navy band will officially open the festival, followed by a short program of music played on kotos, unique Japanese instruments belonging to the Washington Koto Society. Representatives of the Japanese Embassy and the D.C. Mayor's Office will then conduct a brief ceremony commemorating the 1912 gift of 300 cherry trees from the Mayor of Tokyo to the city of Washington as "a memorial of national friendship between the United States and Japan."

The entire opening day is hosted by the Washington Waterfront Association, which represents the various businesses along the waterfront. A. Salon, Ltd., a not-for-profit artist organization that provides affordable space for member artists at 6925 Willow Street, NW has organized the exhibition.

More pictures on page 3

## CLUB #4 STILL OPEN; LOCAL FUNDS SOUGHT

Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club #4, which has served the youth of Southwest D.C. for over sixty years, will continue to operate at Bowen school, but **ONLY** if local funds can be raised.

That is the tentative agreement being discussed by the citywide headquarters for police boys and girls clubs, current staff at Club #4, and neighborhood volunteers.

The Southwest Community Council, Inc., (the 501(c)(3) funding agency for such neighborhood activities as the SW Youth Activities Task Force, the SW Scholarship Committee, THE SOUTHWESTER, and the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly), can receive funds earmarked for Club #4 to meet the club's budget, according to Margaret

Feldman, the council chair.

Insurance and staffing, including assignment of police officers and a van, would continue to be supplied by the city and the MPB&G Club headquarters, it is believed.

Major expenses needing local funds (if Club #4 is to stay open to the 270 local youth age 6 to 18 who are current members) would be:

1. rent of the school during the evening hours and Saturdays,
2. operating expense of the Club #4 van,
3. sports equipment (with football being the most expensive), and
4. stipends for volunteer coaches

As things stand Southwest children age 12 and under would no longer be subsidized for a week or two at the MPB&G summer camp - Camp Brown in Maryland - unless local funds can be raised.

Make checks to the Southwest Community Council, Inc. with a note referring to Club 4 and mail to post box number #70792.

## SWNA Annual Meeting

The March Meeting will be the Annual Meeting of our civic organization. It will be on Monday, March 27 at Anthony Bowen School, 200 M St., SW - in the auditorium, at 6:30 pm.

Reports will be made by the chairs of the task forces; Ann Wilcox, Ward 2 Commissioner of Education will speak on the Police Boys & Girls Club and the schools in SW; election of officers and board for 1995-96 will be held and there will be introduction & installation of the newly elected officers. Please bring to the attention of the board any special concerns for study in the new year.



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**Southwest Community Calendar  
(March - April)**

**Saturday, March 25...** Southwest Neighborhood Information Table outside of Safeway, 12-2 pm  
**Sunday, March 26...** Fifth Annual Cherry Blossom Arts Festival, Potomac Spirit Pier 4, 10 am - 5 pm, **Opening Ceremony**, 2 pm  
**Monday, March 27...** Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Annual Meeting and Elections Anthony Bowen School, 2nd & M, 6:30 pm (auditorium)  
**Thursday, March 30...** NARFE Chapter 2052, SW Branch Library, 1:30 pm  
**Monday, April 3....** SWNA Board Meeting, Branch Library, 6:30 pm  
**Tuesday, April 4....** First District Police Advisory Council, 1D Headquarters, 415 4th Street, SW, 7:30 pm  
**Thursday, April 6...** Cherry Blossom Ceremonial Tree Plantings, SW Waterfront, 4:30 pm  
**Monday, April 10....** ANC-2D, Westminster Church, 7:30 pm

**CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Compiled by Zeba T. Khan

Jack Frost was gentle to Washingtonians this winter and he passed us by with hardly a snowflake in the sky. For all of you rebels not gearing up for "Spring Break" in Florida, here is a list of local entertainment (either free or low in price) in sunny April:

The U.S. Marine Band will conclude its 1995 Chamber Orchestra Concerts with Captain Dennis R. Burian conducting at the National Academy of Sciences Auditorium at 2 pm on Sunday, March 26th. The concert is free and no tickets are required so call the 24-hour Marine Band Concert Line at (202) 433-4011.

The United States Air Force Chamber Players and the U.S. Air Force Saxophone Quartet will perform as part of the "Music in the Great Hall" Recital Series at the National Building Museum at 401 F Street, N.W. on Wednesday, March 29th at 12:15 pm.

The U.S. Air Force Chamber Players will also play on Sunday, April 2nd at 7:30 pm with tubist Master Sergeant Gil Corella at Montgomery College's main campus in the Music Recital Hall. This is a public service but you can call Daisy Jackson, CMSgt, at (202) 767-4310 for more info.

"Remembering the Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Orchestra of 1943-1945" will be held at DAR Constitution Hall at 18th and C Streets, N.W. on Sunday, March 26th at 3 pm and will feature the Airmen of Note, the Strolling Strings and the Singing Sergeants' Crew Chiefs quartet and vocalist, Master Sergeant Bobbie McCleary. Call Daisy Jackson at the above number for details.

Color Me Human Players, Inc., a consciousness-raising theatrical group, will perform Jewel Spencer-Bey's "From Whence We Came", a story about the "universal" black woman. The show is on April 1st, at 6 pm at

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Drop off stories by the 12th of the month in the box behind the counter at the S. W. Library - 3rd & I(Eye) SW - or mail to: **The Southwester**, P.O. 17031, DC 20024

*The Southwester* welcomes your views on any issue which pertains to SW. We routinely edit letters and articles for space and correct grammatical and spelling errors. All letters and articles should have complete address & telephone number.

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Warren Taylor, a photographer of tranquility, returns for his fourth year.

### I AM A MAN

Wallace Babington

Good theater has the capacity to inform and instruct us, move us emotionally and heighten our awareness of the world around us. Really good theater also makes us feel a part of what takes place on the stage. "I Am a Man", the current production at Arena Stage, does all of the above.

The sanitation workers strike in Memphis in 1968 has always been overshadowed by the event that it precipitated: the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. A show of support for the sanitation workers' cause was the reason for Dr. King's presence in Memphis at that time. The playwright OyamO has researched the background and personalities involved in those events and has written a drama that lifts the strike out of relative obscurity to give it the prominent place it deserves in civil rights history.

It's hard to believe that less than thirty years ago sanitation workers were laboring under conditions that today seem almost Dickensian: no uniforms, collection tubs with holes that dripped filth onto the workers clothing, no health plan, pension, job security or overtime pay. These conditions, plus the catalyst event of two workers killed while seeking shelter from a downpour in one of the garbage trucks, prompted the local union leader, T. O. Jones, to call a wildcat strike. The strike grows in importance and meaning as the months go by. It eventually takes on a life of its own and goes beyond the control of T. O. Jones. It ultimately becomes a power struggle that brings into conflict organizations and personalities that include the mayor of Memphis, clergy of every stripe, the local NAACP chapter, black militants and finally the national leadership of the sanitation workers union.

T. O. Jones is the pivotal character around whom all the events occur and whose personal life becomes embroiled and forever changed by those events. In the character of Jones, OyamO has given us a leading figure who is complex

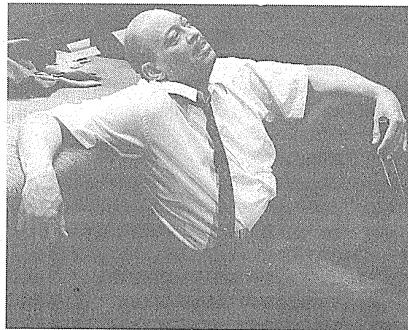


Sandra McKinnon presents ethnic jewelry and dolls.

and very human. He is presented not as a saintly figure who stands above the fray and wins against overwhelming odds. He is rather a man torn between many equally demanding duties and responsibilities. He is sometimes very right - and frequently wrong. As the events whirl around him and ultimately overtake his life, he reacts as a man - a man recognizable to all of us in his strengths and weaknesses - and his humanity. As the strike becomes a major national event that focuses attention on Jones and his friends, it is clear that it has become bigger than their ability to control and contain. As one of the preachers comments: "Everything is bigger than us!" But in spite of all the turmoil and complexity, it is still basically a story of one man against tremendous odds. Against the bureaucracy, church, politics, national organizations. Wendell Wright, now in his fourth season at Arena Stage, portrays T. O. Jones. It is a moving and deeply affecting performance.

One of the outstanding achievements of the play is that a subject of such panoramic breadth and impact is presented in an intimate, almost personal manner. The civil rights movement has produced such a vast array of invaluable literature, drama, music, poetry. "I Am A Man" makes a significant contribution by giving us a drama of power, energy and meaning. We should not miss it.

"I Am a Man" by OyamO, directed by Donald Douglass. At Arena Stage in the Fichandler through April 9.



T. O. Jones, forcefully portrayed by actor Wendell Wright

### Cherry Blossom Planting

In a traditional manner, many Japanese businesses and professionals purchased additional cherry trees to plant in friendly places, both to add beauty and color and to enhance the symbolic friendship between the two countries. One such tree will be put into the ground in front of Spirit Cruises on Thursday afternoon, April 6 at 4:30.

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the Imani Temple, 609 Maryland Ave., N.E. and tickets are \$10.00/adults, \$8.00/senior citizens and \$5.00/children. Call Kelsey Collie at (202) 399-5920 for further info.

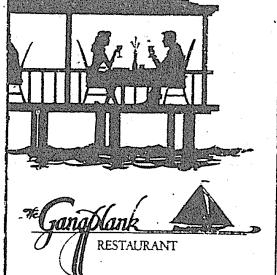
The Corcoran Gallery of Art is sponsoring various April programs including "Storytelling: Southern Folk Tales" on Sunday, April 2nd at 3 pm and "Folk Art Family Work Shop" on Sunday, April 9th especially for parents and their kids. And do not miss the lecture and book signing on Thursday, April 13th at 7:30 pm for "Leonard Bernstein: A Life" as discussed by Meryle Secrest. Call (202) 347-3601 for ticket info.

An auction will be held on Friday, April 7th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at the Capitol Yacht Club on the Waterfront to benefit Early Environments Child Development Center. Call Deborah Cooper Waples at (202) 260-7290.

The Flirtations will play at the University of the District of Columbia's University Auditorium on April 8th at 8 pm. Tickets are \$17.00 and the show will be artistically interpreted for the hearing impaired so call (202) 546-1549.

Look forward to "A Class Act" with works by students from Glen Echo Park's Creative Education Program from May 6th to May 28th. Featured will be paintings, photos, ceramics, glass and mixed medias. Call Britt Reeves at (301) 492-6229 for further info.

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# SCHOOLS

## Amidon Model Outdoor Classroom Project

Amidon Elementary School has received a grant from the U.S. Forest Service to establish a model outdoor classroom. The New Columbia Audobon Society will administer the grant. The ground breaking will be held on April 1, 1995 at 8 a.m.

The school needs lots of volunteers to help with the Model Outdoor Classroom project on April 8, 1995 from 8 a.m. until dusk. Volunteers are needed to prepare the soil and to do carpentry. Please call (202) 724-4867 to volunteer or fax your commitment to 724-4868.

When completed, the Outdoor Classroom will be a model for urban environmental education for other elementary schools, teachers, and students. It will feature dry and wet meadows, a culinary and medicinal herb garden, and a pond. It will include only native plants and animals.

Brenda Collum, EMSTC Site Coordinator at Amidon, conceived the idea for the classroom as a way of enhancing the science curriculum. Mary Pat Rowan, Landscape Architect, with Lou Aronica, Landscape Ecologist and Native Plant Specialist, and Rod Simmons, a Native plant Specialist, designed the classroom, in collaboration with Mrs. Collum, and students at Amidon. Mrs. Collum will serve as the project coordinator. The project is receiving support from the Winkler Preserve, New Columbia Audobon Society, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Environmental Regulation Administration, Soil Resources Management Division, and D.C. Service Corps.

## SCHOOL LIBRARY WEEK AT JEFF

A "Kiss-a-book" contest to guess the number of candy kisses in a jar will start off School Library Week April 18 at Jefferson Jr.

Other activities during the week will include:

Meet the author and book signing; (Carl Rowan and Nikki Giovanni have visited the school in the past)

Field trip to the Library of Congress;

Book marks and treats

An assembly

National Library Week is April 9-14, but that is Spring Break in D.C.

### COMPUTER INDEXES NEEDED

Jefferson Jr. library has a great need for money to pay for indexes on computer. The school's subscriptions to Info-trak (magazine index) and NewsBank (magazines and newspapers) have expired. For \$800 NewsBank can be converted to CD Rom. Infotrack costs \$1500 a year.

## Jefferson Jr. Tops Citywide Science Fair

Jefferson Jr. broke all records, winning first place in eight of the thirteen science fair categories in citywide competition.

First place winners, categories, and topics were:

**Susan Cheung** - Botany - "Effect of Ethylene on the ripening of fruits."

**Julian Breece** - Behavioral/Social Science - "Does birth order help to determine personality?"

**Fairley McCaskill** - Microbiology - "The Efficacy of Antibacterials."

**Lateef Abney** - Zoology - "Do X-Rays affect fruit flies?"

**Ebony Mack/Taisha Hayes** - Group Projects - "Can soil be used for pollutant abatement?"

**Akil Ross** - Earth/Space - "Reducing heat in rockets through insulation."

**Dominick Adams** - Engineering - "Hydropower II"

**Tiane Johnson** - Physics - "Friction slope."

**Olumide Ojeifo** - Medicine/Health - "Effect of environmental cigarette smoke on lung capacity in children."

Second place winners were:

**Shadeequa Miller** - Computers - "The Manta robotic dog."

**Neferterneken Francis** - Medicine/Health - "What is the effect of foul smells on blood pressure?"

Third place, honorable mention and special awards went to:

**Christopher Robinson, Eugene Scott, Hakimu Davidson, Marshall King, Venitra Taylor, Carmen Berry, Michael Pinckney, Akil Ross, Ania Henderson, Marcus Thomas, and Deidra Jappa.**

## AMIDON ART ACHIEVERS

Ten Amidon Elementary School students have won high honors in national and local poster contests.

First place awards have been won by Jon Claude Simms, 5th Grader, and Fatoumata Bah, 6th Grader. Two awards each were won by Domonique Chapman, 3rd Grader, and Joi Nash, 5th Grader.

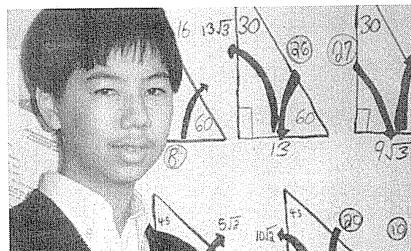
Others placing in the top three are Robin Campbell, 6th Grade; Milan Coleman, 4th Grade; Jon Paul Mock, 6th Grade; Jennifer Barner, 1st Grade; Andrea Clipper, 6th Grade; Kwame Brown, 1st Grade.

In addition, 21 students from kindergarten through 6th grade won first, second, or third place in the Black History Month Art Contest sponsored by the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Education.

Mrs. Beverly Carpenter is art teacher at Amidon.

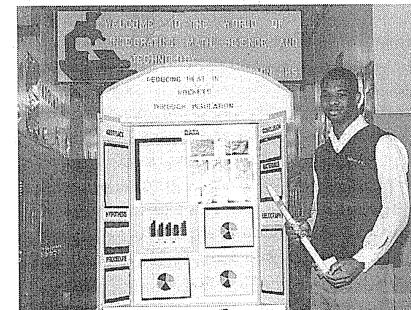
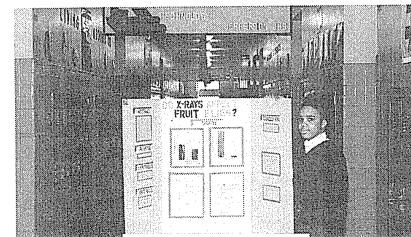
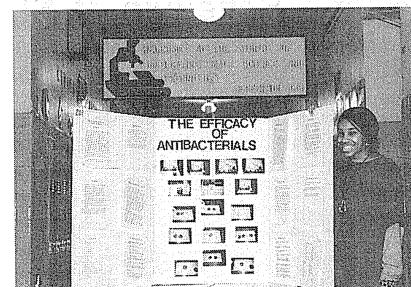
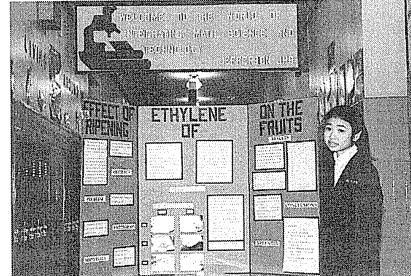
(Charles H. Harden, Jr. supplied this information to the Southwester.)

## Gilbert Wang to Nationals in MATHCOUNTS



Jefferson Jr. High eighth grader Gilbert Wang placed third in the citywide MATHCOUNTS competition and made the D.C. state team which competes in the nationals on the weekend of April 27.

The three hour test will determine who wins trophies and scholarships worth many thousands of dollars.



# RELIGION

## St. Dominic's Holy Week Schedule

Thurs. Apr. 13 - Holy Thursday Mass - 12:10 pm in the church

7:30 pm - Solemn concelebrated Mass and procession to the repository - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:30 pm

Fri. Apr. 14 - Good Friday - Noon to 2 - Stations of the Cross, Homilies and Meditation on the Passion. Confessions.

7:30 pm - Solem Liturgical service (Holy Communion distributed at the 7:30 service only)

Sat. Apr. 15 - 8 pm - Easter Vigil ceremonies and Mass

Sun. Apr. 16 - Easter Sunday -Masses: 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 (Spanish), 12:15; and 5:15 pm.

## Riverside Baptist Plans for Easter

Sun. Apr. 9 Palm Sunday - 11 am

Thurs. Apr. 13, Maundy Thurs. -

7:30 pm Communion Service

Fri, Apr. 14 Good Friday - Noon - Ecumenical service at St. Augustine's 6th and M St SW

Sun. Apr. 16 - Easter - 11 am service

## Easter Schedule at St. Matthews Lutheran

A calendar of coming events at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church at 3rd and M St S.W. includes:

Sun. Apr 2 (each Sun.10 am Sunday School/Bible Study for All)

11 a m H o l y Communion - guest Pastor Thomas Knoll

Sun. Apr 9 11 am Worship with Palm Procession and blessing of the Palms

Tuhs Apr 13 7:30 pm Holy Communion on Holy Thursday

Fri Apr 14 7:30 pm GOOD FRIDAY Service of Tenebrae (Service of Shadows)

Sun Apr 16 11 am EASTER SUNDAY - festival Holy Communion on the Resurrection of our Lord

## BRUSH UP ON YOUR SHAKESPEARE

On April 23rd, 1995 (which incidentally also happens to be Will's birthday), the joint committee of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and Temple Micah will sponsor a festive afternoon of Elizabethan food and drink, juggling, games, dance, music, favors and costume. The revival will feature recitations and skits by various Shakespeare afficiandos. A guest appearance by Mr. Shakespeare himself is a distinct possibility. This free event takes place at 600 M Street, SW at St. Augustine and Temple Micah, and begins at 2 pm. Come one, come all!



One of the tables at Saturday breakfast at Christ United Methodist Church

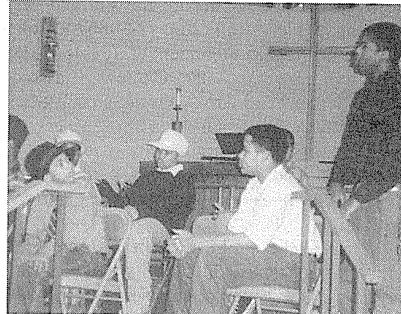
## "Big Big Breakfast" Saturday Mornings at Christ Methodist

McDonald's may have a Big Breakfast, but Christ United Methodist Church at 4th and I SW has invented the BIG BIG BREAKFAST on the third Saturday of every month from 9 am to 11 am. (Use the rear entrance.)

For only \$4 the men of the church serve the public a fabulous meal of:

eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, biscuits, sweet rolls, orange juice and coffee or tea.

## "I Am A Man"



Jefferson Jr. High students acting a scene from "I Am A Man," at the S.W. Black History Month program at St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church. The scene shows garbage workers in Memphis, Tennessee, voting to go on strike in 1968. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated when he went to Memphis to lead a march in support of the striking workers.

## Christ Methodist Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday (Apr. 9) and Easter Sunday (Apr. 16) services will be at 11 am at Christ United Methodist Church at 4th and I (Eye) St. SW. Special music will be featured.

On Thurs. Apr. 13 (Maundy Thurs.) a 6:30 supper will be followed by a special service.

## Easter Season Schedule at Westminster Church

All are welcome!

Sun. Mar. 26 and Apr. 2, 9:30 am Discussion of "Troubling Biblical Waters," written by Prof. Cain Hope Felder of Howard U.

Thurs. Mar. 30 and Apr. 6 - 6:30pm. Lenten soup supper discussion - "Embracing the Brokenness of Life."

Sun. Apr. 9, 11 am PALM SUNDAY

Sun. Apr. 16, 11 am EASTER SUNDAY WITH SPECIAL EASTER MUSIC

(Anyone may order an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one. It will decorate the altar on Easter Sunday and may be taken home or donated to a shut-in. Call the church office mornings Tues-Fri)

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### MASSES

SATURDAY EVE: 5:15 pm

SUNDAY: 8:00 am, 9:30, 10:45 (Spanish Mass)

12:15 and 5:15 pm

HOLYDAYS: Evening before: 5:30 pm; day of:

7:30 am, 8:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 and 5:30 pm

WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20 and 12:10 p.m.

SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm



Rhonda Hamilton packaging meals on wheels at Food and Friends.

## SUMMER JOBS

The District Department of Employment Services' summer jobs program for DC residents ages 14-21, is now registering applicants. The program will operate from June 26-August 4.

Applicants must present a Social Security card, a birth certificate, proof of DC residency and family income. Male applicants 18 and older also need proof of Selective Service registration.

Youth can register at the D.C. Department of Employment Services at 500 C Street, N.W. from 9AM to 1PM, Saturday; 9AM - 7PM Monday and Wednesday; and 9AM - 4:30PM Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The above times are effective thru Friday, April 14.

For more information, call (202) 724-7300, because the dates and times are subject to change because of furlough days in the District Government.

## Jack Evans Speaks

### Southwest Jobs Fair

Plans are still underway to pin down a location and date for Southwest Jobs Fair, however plans to conduct the Jobs Fair in April have been moved up to the month of June.

We are still in need of volunteers and donations of tables and chairs. If you can assist us, we would be delighted to hear from you. Remember that together we can make our community a productive and safe place to live and work.

We are asking Southwest residents to volunteer with setting up, greeting the participants, assisting participants during the jobs fair, or helping break down after the event. We also need volunteers to conduct workshops. If you would like to volunteer, please call Vicki Parker or my staff at 724-8058.

### Councilmember Evans Staff visits Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Meeting

Councilmember Evans' budget consultant, Michael Rice, and Chief of Staff, John Ralls, attended the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly meeting earlier this year. Mr. Rice explained in detail the recent actions taken by the D.C. City Council on budget issues. He addressed many questions about services that are slated for reduction and how they will impact our community.

Once the Mayor's complete budget package for FY96 is sent to the City Council, we will have a better idea of what to expect regarding cuts in city services. If you have any specific questions regarding the budget, please call our office at (202) 724-8058.

### Update on Syphax School and the Southwest Boys and Girls Club

Councilmember Evans and his staff are actively working to resolving the issues concerning Syphax School. We are pressing the Department of Administrative Services to develop a future plan for Syphax property which is conducive for a safe community.

It was announced at the ANC 2D meeting Monday, February 13, that the Southwest Police Boys and Girls club is scheduled to close Friday, February 17, 1995. Councilmember Evans discussed this issue with Carol Schwartz and Ward Two Board of Education Representative, Ann Wilcox in an attempt to negotiate waiving the club's entire monthly payment.

Due to a large community effort, the Police Boys and Girls Club will be allowed to operate for the next two months. Councilmember Evans is exploring all possible avenues to keep the doors of the club open after that. Consideration is being given to a possible mass mailing to Ward Two constituents for donations and fund-raising efforts.

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**Chili Sale**

by C.Wm. JONES

The 3rd Annual Chili Cook-out was a great success. The River Park Mutual Homes' South Common Room was a very busy place on Sat, Feb. 25, 1995. Four volunteers from the Activities Committee had started cooking the day before. When it became evident that there were problems on that Sat, a dozen or so Non-Activities Committee individuals including River Side resident Anne RENSBERGER and River Parker's, like myself, volunteered to get it done. Next year, if there is a fourth annual, we will be better organized in a number of ways.

First, we will set a deadline of at least the day before to cut off advance order taking. Another thing will be that we will have enough labor to make the advance orders and anticipated demand for the day of the event. We will devote the time in the kitchen on the day of the event only to make the chili for immediate consumption in the Common Room and take any future delivery orders only if labor is available. If you would like to help out next time, please give your name and what you would like to contribute to the Activity Committee.

There was a silver lining to the situation. Keith MELDER, Co-Chair of the committee quoted long time River Parker Miss. Marguerite GILSTRAP as saying "Many people had a good time. Some sat for two hours visiting with neighbors, enjoying 'good fellowship'".

The profits went into the committee's "Kitty." The Kitty supports the food, drink, door prizes and such for the committee's other activities like the Children's Halloween Party, Games Night, Poolside BBQs, Holiday Party and the Annual New Member's reception.

It was suggested that at one of the three proposed poolside BBQ (4th July, Father's Day in June, and late Aug) there be a Chili Cook Off to allow for RiverParkers to socialize with each other as well as, to raise funds. A little Veggi Chili over a turkey dog on a whole wheat bun sounds pretty good to me even after unexpectedly spending three hours cooking batch after batch after batches... of chili. Just for the record at 1500hr, when the event should have been over and cleaned up, we had a bunch of both the Veggi and Meat chili to make to fill all the back orders. The cooking & cleaning went on till 2100hr that night and some chili was made and delivered Monday morning. Thanx to all who participated.

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**ELECTION OF SWNA ASSEMBLY BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

There will be an election of officers for the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly(SWNA) on Monday, March 27, 1995, at 6:30PM at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, Delaware Avenue and M St S.W.

Residents of SW can vote for any of the candidates for officers. However, for District Representative candidates, you can only vote for the person representing the District where you reside. When you vote for District Representatives on March 27, look for the color code that represents your District.

Candidates for officers are:

**PRESIDENT - Dr. Beryl Rice** - Retired Social Worker. Is currently a part-time faculty member at Howard University and is Project Director of "Adopt a School." She is interested in the youth, especially in preparation for work. She is interested in developing more ways to engage youth in the SWNA.

**VICE PRESIDENT - NO CANDIDATE**

**SECRETARY - Dr. Marc A. Weiss** - Special Assistant to Secretary, Housing & Urban Development, author, former professor at Columbia U. Is interested in community development. Would like to see more done in the area of urban & economic development.

**TREASURER - Lonnie Murray** - Consultant and real estate developer -- He is seeking a 5th term. He has been involved in the community for more than 23 years. Wants to assist more people to get involved.

**Candidates for District Representatives in the four districts are:****DISTRICT 1 (North of M St, West of 6th St.)**

**Carole Early** - Editor of the *Southwester* and works as a Library Technician. She wants to see more people involved. Feels she can be a good resource coordinator.

**DISTRICT 2 (North of M St, East of 6th St.)**

**Joe Rauscher** - (no information received).

**Zandra Earl** - has worked in the community in Michigan. Is concerned with seeing more people in the community come together to get things accomplished.

**Peggy Jackson** - Community Consumer Liason - She is interested in seeing growth and involvement by community residents and wants to make people more aware of the many resources that are available to them.

**DISTRICT 3 (South of M St, West of Delaware Ave.)**

**Walter Brooks** - A resident of SW for 27 years. His first job was in SW with the Recreation Department. He was a teacher and Administrator in the D.C. Public Schools. He is seeking a 6th term. Is interested in the education of our residents.

**Yvonne (Bonnie) Staley** - Works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Is interested in seeing more parents take more responsibility for their children and wants to assist parents in that area.

**DISTRICT 4 (South of M St., East of Delaware Ave.)**

**Mattie Cunningham** - a resident of SW for three years. She is interested in improving her neighborhood and wants to get more people participating.

**Emma P. Ward** - A resident of SW for 17 years.

She is a Program Analyst at the US Department of Agriculture and has been a volunteer tutor in reading and math for 9 years. Would like to see more cooperation and communication among residents and wants to assist in that area.

**AT LARGE CANDIDATE - Margaret Feldman** - former President of the SWNA and SWCC.

Any candidates who are not listed above can be added as a write-in. Please come out and vote for the candidate(s) of your choice.

**To place your vote,  
come to the meeting on Monday, March 27**

**Scholarship Committee**

Full-time students, get your scholarship applications at the SW Library. As the saying goes, "help is right around the corner". Thanks are due to community members who have responded so beautifully. We couldn't do this without you.

Donations to the Scholarship Committee go to provide a partial scholarship to a Southwest student. You may wish to make a donation in the memory of a loved one or in honor of a specific event or person. Your gift will be very appreciated. Please send your checks to SW Scholarship Committee, POB 70481, Washington, DC 20024.

**SENATE DRY CLEANERS**

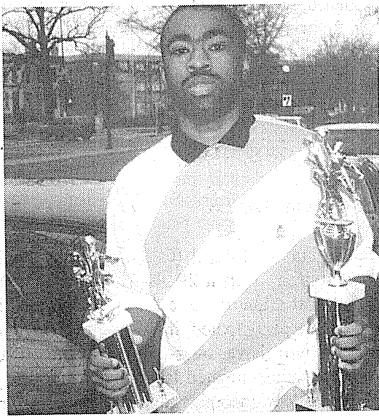
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- SHOE REPAIRS WHILE-U-WAIT
- SAME DAY DRY CLEANING AND SHIRTS
- KEYS CUT AND LOCKSMITH

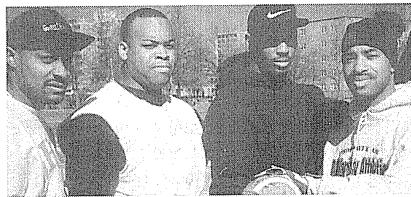
*M-F 7:30 AM to 7:00 PM - SAT 8-5*

# SPORTS



PRESTON THOMAS, M.V.P. of the D.C.I.A.A. Junior Varsity Basketball Championship  
16 points, 11 assists, 4 steals.

## Former Club #4 Athletes Still Compete

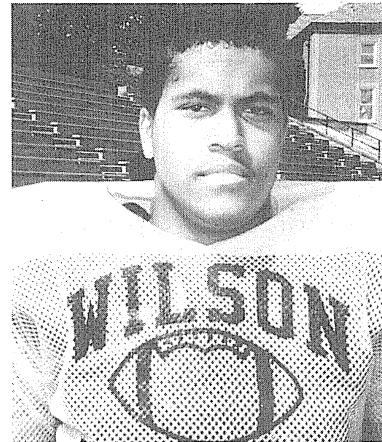


Among the adult athletes who practice touch football Saturday mornings at King-Greenleaf Field are these men who played football, basketball, and baseball for MPB&G Club #4 when they were growing up in Southwest.

Left to right are: Wyatt Green, a graduate of Shaw University; Herman "Smiley" Jackson, who is continuing his education; David Burno, a car salesman; and Melvin Pickett, a graduate of Maine Central Institute and now an employee of the U.S. Congress.

They all express support for keeping Club #4 open.

Other Club #4 alumni recently at the scrimmages were Laurence "Putney" Brown, a jury clerk at D.C. Superior Court, and Michael Locksley, a graduate of Towson State University, who has left for a college football coaching job in California.



DONALD WRIGHT, 5'9" 210lb center for the Wilson High Tigers. As a senior next year Wright will be a factor.

### Benefit Basketball Game

Members of the Georgetown University Faculty will play members of Congress in the eighth annual basketball game to benefit the homeless legal service program. The game will be on Tuesday, March 28. Doors will open at 7:00 pm with tip off at 8:00 pm. The game will be in the Gonzaga High School gymnasium located at 19 Eye St., N.W. (behind Union Station).

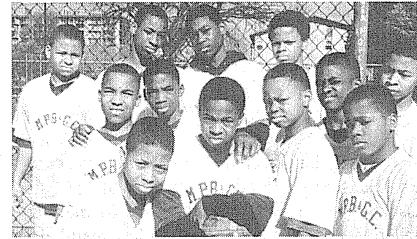
## Club #4 Awards, Noon, Sat. Apr. 1

Trophies and certificates will be given out at #4 Boys and Girls Club in the Bowen School auditorium at the club's annual awards banquet at noon Saturday, April 1.

(All youth who took part in 1994-95 activities of the club should see their coaches and leaders to be sure they are on the list for an award).

Forty-four basketball and forty-three football trophies have been ordered. Six cheerleaders and fifteen baseball players will receive awards.

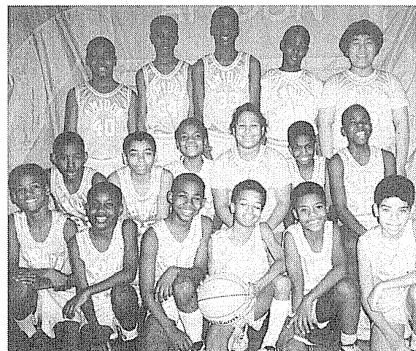
One hundred certificates will be given to students of neighborhood schools who have been in the early intervention program for first offenders, which has been conducted by the club staff during the school day.



### 1994 TEAMS WONDER ABOUT 1995

These Club No. 4 football players from 1994 were hoping to play again in the fall of 1995. Will you help?

## AMIDON BASKETBALL



Amidon Elementary School's basketball team

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Mon./ Tues./ Wed. - 6:30 pm  
Sat. - 8:30 am & 9:15 am

Class Information: 202-363-4447

## An Act of Honesty and Responsibility

by Thelma D. Jones

During a visit to my son's school on one of those bone-chilling days during the first part of February, I learned of an experience that warmed my heart and others as well. Jefferson Junior High students Derrick Cousar and Frederick Rehm (both 9th Graders) found a wallet near G Street, S.W. while on their way to school. The wallet, belonging to a newcomer to the city contained \$25 and other valuables, including credit cards and ID cards.

What warmed my heart was the responsible way in which these youth reacted to the wallet. First, they agreed that it should be returned in tact to the owner. Secondly, they immediately tried to locate the owner by knocking on several doors in the area of where the wallet was found. Finally, with no luck, the youth proceeded to school and immediately turned the wallet over to Principal Vera M. White. Principal White praised the youth for their deed and subsequently proceeded to identify and locate the owner.

You may wonder what inspired these youth to be so honest and responsible in the midst of a tempting situation and daily peer pressure. An interview with the parents and guardian assured me that the answer lies with their upbringing and the morals and values instilled in the young men. Their parents have emphasized to them the importance of being honest, reporting or returning items that do not belong to them (responsibility), and keeping with good company. These values have been further stressed to Cousar and Rehm through their spiritual development. Both of them attend church regularly and have been or are still active in their church choirs. Both Cousar and Rehm also have chores around the house and enjoy some of the same activities, namely computers and basketball. Also, these young men often walk of the way to school together and share a common bond; they have been close friends since enrolling at Jefferson two years

## UPDATE ON D.C. SCHOOL ISSUES

(excerpts from a report by Ward 2 Board of Education Member Ann C. Wilcox)

This has been an interesting and challenging time to come to the Board. Many issues face our schools, and the city as a whole: we find we must do more with fewer resources, and must work together as a government and community to confront these challenges. For example:

**BUDGET:** The Board worked through the month of January to achieve \$31.8 million in mandated cuts to the school's budget. We took every saving possible, to avoid affecting classroom programs; to keep a beneficial student-teacher ratio... Ten furlough days for teachers and staff (as well as Board members) will, nevertheless, affect morale throughout the system. We are currently seeking full funding

ago.

Situations similar to this occur more frequently than we realize; however, we seldom hear about them. Why, I wonder? It's simple. These types of situations do not sell newspapers or positively affect TV ratings. Our local media seems to be obsessed with or prefer to report the gory details of yet another senseless killing or those incidents that depict African Americans, especially males, in stereotypical fashions which emphasize their lack of moral fiber of confused priorities.

The lesson of this incident is important. We have not lost a whole generation of youth. Our young people are more honest, responsible, and focused than the media lead us to believe. Many of our youth are involved in positive efforts that are making a difference in their lives as well as in their schools, homes, and communities. This is evidenced in Southwest by the progress of our young people who are furthering their education at colleges and university with the support of the Southwest Scholarship Committee (see the December 1994 article on Gregory Triplett). It is further evidenced by Southwest youth who have graduated from college and assumed well paying and challenging positions through the efforts of the Youth Activities Task Force and the Southwest Scholarship Committee. These two entities are task forces of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. Lisa Matthews is a good example; she has been the subject of several articles in The Southwester.

If these examples fail to remind us of the thrust of our youth's progress and direction, consult with Principal White, who will share with you examples of Jefferson students being involved in a variety of activities and community service projects and maintaining good grades at the same time. Or, you may consult with Scholarship Committee Chairperson Barbara A. Murray or Youth Activities Task Force Chairperson Beryl C. Rice. Either one of them would be pleased to share her files of letters of recognition and performance concerning Southwest youth.

We have a responsibility to report or openly share more of the positive sides of our young people's deeds and activities such as the incident

of the FY96 budget, avoiding further harmful cuts.

**FIRE CODE VIOLATIONS/BUILDING REPAIR:** The school system continues to work to repair fire code violations in school buildings, so as to comply with court orders in the lawsuit filed by Parents United. Further court reviews are scheduled for April, 1995. A successful city-wide volunteer "repair day" was held on March 11, helping to address the fire code repairs.

**YOUTH ANTI-VIOLENCE SUMMIT:** I was involved in the planning and leadership of the city-wide Anti-Violence Summit held on February 25 at Shaw Junior High School. The meeting...featured thoughtful dialogue from young people about the threat of violence in the community and at schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office - 202-724-5459 - if you wish to discuss these or other matters.

with Cousar and Rehm. Their act of honest and responsibility was a remarkable deed and one certainly worthy of praise and recognition.

Congratulations to Derrick Cousar and Frederick Rehm for setting an example for others to follow. More importantly, thanks for reminding us that an entire generation of youth has not been lost.

## Christmas in April

by C. Wm. JONES

Christmas in April (CA) will be happening in DC on Sat., April 29 1995. Last year there was almost a quarter of a million people nation wide who participated in CA. This year the District will have over a ninety sites. CA brings together donated labor and material with homes of low income, handicapped or elderly for massive remodelling. Work starts early. If you wish to bring your own tools, please mark your name on them. On-site tools will be provided. In the afternoon there is a BBQ in Rock Creek Park. Everybody who works will receive a CA T-Shirt. Call 202-863-1567 for more info about the River Park Crew and the Crew from elsewhere in Southwest. The day to come together is April 7, 1995. Daycare can be arranged for in advance. This will be the fifth year that WE have put a crew together with a minimum of five and a high of 19 contributing individuals. This can be part of "Giving Five" (5% net income and/or 5% time a month) back into the community. We are looking to sponsor a CA in 1996 that will be here in Southwest being the CREW's job all the way and culminating on Sat., April 27 1996.

## JEFFERSON JUNIOR HIGH

\*Reminder for parents a P.T.A. meeting will be held at the school on APRIL 19, 1995.

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## The Wiley Branton Meeting

by: Christopher Taylor

Marc Weiss works at Housing and Urban Development, HUD, and he volunteers on the Wiley Branton Community Development Corp. He says that he really enjoys it very much. Their annual meeting was Wednesday, March 8.

Mr. Weiss says that the WBCDC is a great chance to get people off of welfare and to create better jobs and make better and safer streets. He says that over forty people were in attendance, so a quorum was reached.

They want to engage in helping with some housing and development. He closed the interview by saying that the Wiley Branton meeting has a wonderful group.

There was a year-end report by the president, David Brewer. Mr. Brewer also read the plan for the activities of the C.D.C.

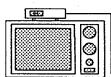
Elections were held. Officers who were elected to three-year terms were Jean Macdonald, Ron Britt, and Suzanne Huff. Marc Weiss was elected to serve the remainder of Dana Winner's term. After the elections, finances were discussed. Money in the treasury comes from several different sources. Some came from Portals and some from the Agnes Meyer Foundation. The board plans to meet the week of March 20th. The community wishes the new board the best of luck.

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Marian Wright Edelman  
Children's Defense Fund

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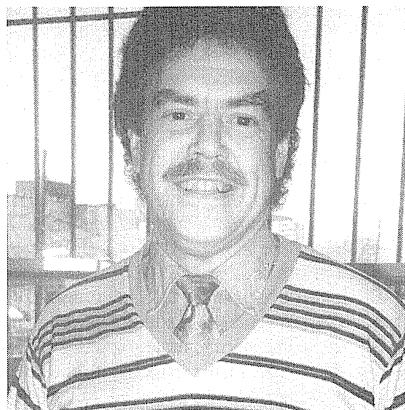
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Rick Bardach, director of Southwest Community House

## New Director of SWCH

Carlena Solomon, Jefferson JHS

Rick Bardach is the new director of the Southwest Community House. He is very excited about being in his job and he is looking forward to meeting as many people in the community as he can. He has already met a lot of people. He started working at the Southwest Community House on Monday, February 6, 1995.

Mr. Bardach came to Washington, D.C. in 1966, after graduating from college. He worked for the Federal government for four years. He worked for the D.C. Government (Department of Human Services) for 24 years, he retired from DHS on December 31, 1994. He lives in Northwest.

He said that the Southwest Community House (SWCH) goes back to 1901, when some ladies put together an informal volunteer organization. Then, in 1905, it became a formal organization, Ana Cooper was the director. The SWCH went through lots of different changes. It was first located in a house which was donated by a lady who in the S.W. area. The program moved to where it is today in 1978. In 1985, the house had to close down for a couple of years for a lack of money. It reopened and has been going for the last 7 or 8 years.

At the SWCH, they have three key programs: 1. employment counseling service, run by Ms. Roberta Patrick, 2. Crisis Intervention Program, run by Mrs. Delores Mack and 3. a Senior Citizen's Program Office, located at the 1200 Delaware Avenue Senior Citizen's building. It is a small operation which Mr. Bardach hopes will grow.

In addition to these programs, there is a group of about ten teen-aged girls and boys that meets at the SWCH every Tuesday afternoon from 4:30 - 6:30. The group calls itself "the Successiteers". They discuss problems, play games, etc.

This group was started in 1991. They want to expand their circle. Any interested person who is between the ages of eleven and fifteen, call the House at 488-7210.

## Remembrance of Thurgood Marshall

Thelma D. Jones

The Diocese of Washington recently established January 24 as a day of commemoration for Justice Thurgood Marshall in honor of his contributions to individual rights. The Diocese will also ask the Standing Liturgical Commission to present the commemorative resolution to the next convention of the Episcopal Church for ratification.

A graduate of Lincoln University (Pennsylvania) and Howard University Law School, Marshall became the first director of the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund, an organization dedicated to civil rights advocacy and litigation. Marshall spent thirty years crisscrossing the South, filing lawsuits on behalf of the Legal Defense and Education Fund. He was in great physical danger through those tumultuous and triumphant years; and on more than one occasion, lynch mobs sought to hang him.

President John F. Kennedy appointed Marshall to the Second Circuit Federal Court in New York. President Lyndon Johnson nominated Thurgood Marshall to the office of Solicitor General of the United States and, in 1967, as the first African American to serve as an associate justice of the Supreme Court.

Justice Marshall brought incredible change to the structure of the nation. Without regard for his personal safety and with immense energy, he tore down the barriers which had kept generations of African Americans from taking their rightful place in society. Thurgood Marshall was the author of major social change from which everyone benefits. He died on January 24, 1993. In a personal letter of thanks and deep appreciation to St. Augustine's Rector John T. Talbott, for spearheading the commemorative effort, Mrs. Marshall said: "I know Thurgood would cherish this commemorative designation - above all other honors - for it was his deep faith in God and teachings of our Church, that gave him the strength and courage to fulfill his mission of always doing the best he could with what he had in his quest - that of seeking equal justice for all."

Ms. Darlington expressed an interest in starting a parenting group which would be an extension of the Successiteers. Interested parents, call her a call.

Sharen Harris is the secretary/bookkeeper of the House. The SWCH board has 16 members, they all are volunteers who meet one evening each month. Their job is to provide overall direction for the program. Mr. Bardach hopes that the community can give the SWCH encouragement and support. Help is needed in the following areas: volunteering to tutor or mentor kids, volunteering in the office, helping with the food program or clothing bank, working with the Senior Citizens...

Anyone interested in participating in SWCH events should call 488-7210 or come by the House at 156 Q St. Donations can be sent to the above address.

## SW TUTORIAL PROGRAM

For the past few weeks several students from Amidon and Bowen Elementary Schools and Jefferson Jr High have been involved in an after-school tutorial and life skills program that meets twice a week at the SW public library.

Sponsored by the SW Youth Activities Task Force, the program is run by Charles H. Harden, Jr., a longtime Southwest resident and teacher at Bowen and Amidon. He calls the program "Life-As-Youth-Seize-It."

Small group and individualized instruction is given between 3:30 and 5:30. Field trips are planned to enrich the experiences of the children.

## Sat. 2 pm Lecture Series On African History at SW Library

For 9 Saturday afternoons at 2pm from Apr. 1 to June 3 the Southwest Branch Library at Wesley Place and K St SW will host its annual Spring Lecture Series.

The April 1 lecture will be on "African Presence in Early Europe," by Carter Ward. Other topics in the series will range from "Black Explorers" to "Black America, Africa, and the Second World War" to "African Baskets & Quilts."

### FIVE STEPS FOR DEALING WITH A POOR REPORT CARD

1. Talk with your child calmly about each grade. Can he/she explain the grades? What does he/she think needs to be done?
2. Suggest ways of improvement at P.T.A. meetings or a scheduled meeting between you and your child's teacher.
3. Find out what help is available at school.
4. Consider someone in the neighborhood - older students or adult. Local Library.
5. Develop a plan with your child to help him/her set specific achievable goals.

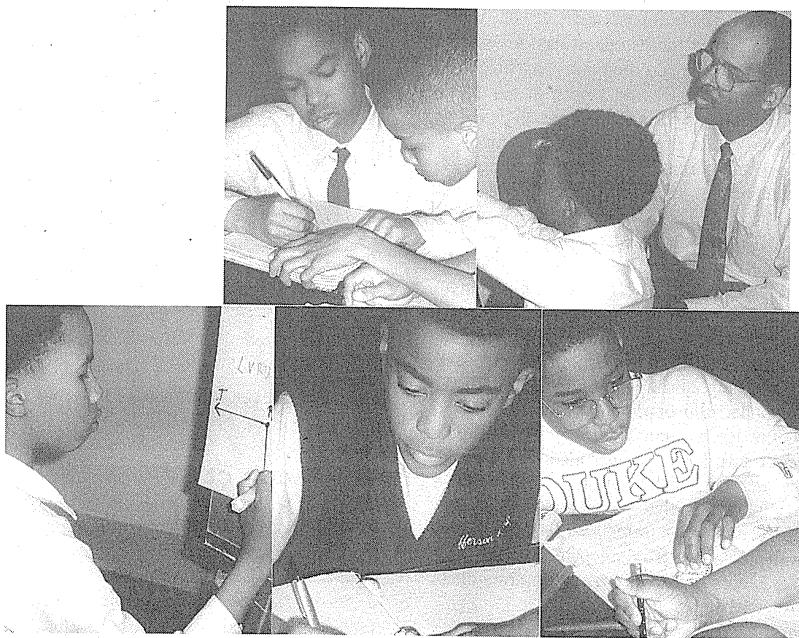
## Regional Minority Business Conference Scheduled for April 4th

Area minority and women-owned businesses can meet purchasing agents, buyers, and business specialist from 25 local governments at MAXACCESS, being held Tuesday, April 4. The conference, held every two years, is aimed at increasing minority participation in local government contracts. MAXACCESS will be held at the Washington Convention Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The conference is free and hosts agencies responsible for awarding more than \$2 billion in contracts each year.

In addition to booths staffed by local government buyers, participants can take advantage of four free seminars on financing for business, bonding and insurance, business rights and responsibilities in subcontracting and participate in a vendor forum with purchasing agents.

Local governments and agencies participating in the conference include: Alexandria; Arlington County government and schools; District of Columbia public works, human rights and minority business and schools; Fairfax County

## LIBRARY



### COG Report

#### Increase in Job Growth, Decline in Unemployment

Regional job growth is increasing according to data released today by the Council of Governments (COG). In December 1994, job growth topped one percent for the first time since November 1993.

"This is a good sign after a relatively stagnant year in the Washington metropolitan region," according to COG regional planner Jamie Woodwell. "The regional job growth rate of 1.2 percent still lags behind the national rate of 3.0 percent, but strong increases in manufacturing, construction, and retail employment have helped narrow that gap."

These findings are included in the recent issue of the Regional Economic Monitoring System Report, issued monthly by COG.

government, water authority, and schools; City of Fairfax; Frederick County schools; Loudon County government; Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; Montgomery County government, community college and schools; Prince George's County government, community college and schools; Prince William County government and schools; Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and COG.

MAXACCESS, sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, was established in 1987 to help local governments and agencies expand their minority bidders lists and increase the number of minority businesses participating in purchasing contracts. Spanish translators will be available at the conference. Those interested in the conference can call (202) 962-3410 for more information.

## Discussion Set On Future of Nat'l Mall

Plans into the 21st Century for Washington, D. C.'s monuments and mall area will be discussed at a public meeting Wed. June 8 from 7 pm to 9 pm in Jefferson Jr. High School's gym.

The National Capital Planning Commission, the federal agency responsible for planning control for the capital region, will sponsor this and four other "open houses" throughout the city and in Arlington County in June "to discuss 21st Century planning concepts for the monumental core area of our nation's capital."

## Professional Speakers

More than 200 area businesspeople will gather on Saturday, April 8, 1995 when the National Capital Speakers Association offers a full day of workshops, roundtables, and networking for the professional or aspiring speaker or trainer. The Speakers School will be held from 7:30 to 4:00 at the Tyson's Corner Marriott in northern Virginia. Call 703-716-0942 if you are interested and want to register for the class.

At its March 13, 1995 meeting ANC 2D:

Heard Steven Glass, appearing on behalf of the Odyssey III 600-passenger cruise vessel describe the plans for its operations. Glass also agreed to develop a community participation plan, with the ANC, and return at the April meeting to discuss it. (The plan is intended to prevent the cruise operation from creating neighborhood parking problems, promote job opportunities for local residents, among other things.)

Watched a video on Habitat for Humanity's general operations and heard Carol Casperson explain their specific efforts in rehabilitating an abandoned house at 1st and O Streets SW.

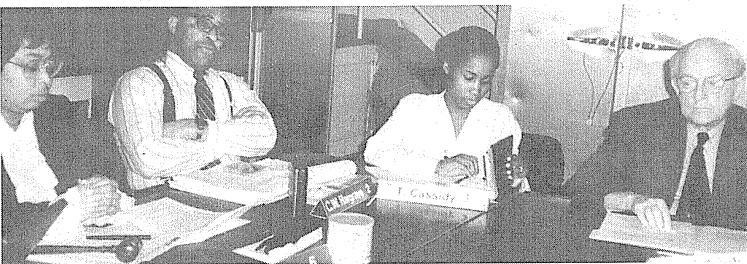
Approved a community participation plan with Nightingale II cruise ship to minimize the possibility of the cruises creating neighborhood problems, and agreed to withdraw its protest to the Nightingale's liquor license.

Discussed its financial problems in the wake of the District's budget crisis and reduction in the ANCs' budgets.

Decided not to protest Cap Liquor's license renewal providing the store owners agree to a plan for keeping the area around the store clean and free from litter.

Agreed to send a letter to people involved with the Star Trek activity on the waterfront asking to be more considerate of area residents when they operate the event.

Voted to prepare a joint letter with the Washington Waterfront Association. The letter will be available for residents to give to operators of



ANC Commissioner LaVerne Reeves, chair; C.W. Hargraves, Toni Cassidy, Dick Westbrook.

buses that sit with their engines idling and will cite the law prohibiting this practice.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the ANC will be 7:30 pm at 400 I Street SE (in the basement of Westminster Church). The agenda, which is subject to last minute changes, now includes: the Odyssey III Community Participation Plan and the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation. For more information or to request that a matter be placed on the ANC agenda, call 554-1795.



ANC Commissioners Judith Jones, Le Eckles



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